UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/52/210
27 February 1998

Fifty-second session
Agenda item 12

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/52/625)]

52/210. Report of the Committee for Development Planning

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/206 of 20 December 1991 on the report of the Committee for Development Planning and criteria for identifying the least developed countries,

Taking note of subparagraph (*a*) of Economic and Social Council decision 1997/223 of 18 July 1997, by which the Council endorsed the recommendation of the Committee for Development Planning that Vanuatu be graduated from the list of least developed countries,

Taking note also of subparagraph (*b*) of Economic and Social Council decision 1997/223,

Taking note further of the content of the letter of the Prime Minister of Vanuatu[1] advancing reasons to support his position that the review of the status of Vanuatu should be deferred until the year 2000,

Taking note of the decision of the Committee for Development Planning, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 51/183 of 16 December 1996, to examine,[2] as part of its work programme for 1997-1998, the report to be prepared by the Secretary-General on the vulnerability index for small island developing States and to consider the usefulness of such an index as a criterion for the designation of least developed countries in its examination of issues related to improvements to the criteria and methodology for the designation of least developed countries,[3]

---

[1] A/C.2/52/5, annex, appendix.

[2] Without prejudice to the review by the Economic and Social Council of its subsidiary bodies, as initiated in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, and bearing in mind other relevant Assembly resolutions.

[3] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 15* (E/1997/35), para. 241 (*c*).

Taking into account statements made by several delegations during the debate on the report of the Economic and Social Council at the meetings of the Second Committee on 11 November 1997,[4]

1. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 4 and 5 of its resolution 46/206 relating to transitional arrangements;

2. *Welcomes* the convening in New York from 17 to 19 December 1997 of Working Group III of the Committee for Development Planning to review the results of the technical work and the outcome of the expert group meeting concerning the vulnerability index, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 51/183;

3. *Decides* to postpone its consideration of subparagraph (*a*) of Economic and Social Council decision 1997/223, in consideration of the views and recommendations to be submitted by the Committee for Development Planning to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 51/183, on the usefulness of the vulnerability index as a criterion for the designation of least developed countries and without prejudice to the full development and examination of the vulnerability index and its potential application in assessing the graduation of Vanuatu, a small island developing State, from the list of least developed countries, and to take a decision accordingly.

77th plenary meeting
18 December 1997

[4] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Second Committee*, 36th and 37th meetings (A/C.2/52/SR.36 and 37), and corrigendum.